



Indiana State Department of Health

Epidemiology Resource Center



Adult Viral Hepatitis Prevention Program Newsletter

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For questions or suggestions, contact
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New Look for Newsletter

Next month, the Viral Hepatitis newsletter will have a new look. I have collaborated with departmental staff to utilize a new software to deliver you a more clear and organized newsletter. During this time of change, I thought it would be good to have feedback from you, the audience, on the newsletter. I want the newsletter to be a welcomed resource for you. **Please** complete a very brief (7 questions) survey to provide me with useful and pertinent information. To complete the survey, visit <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/VHPNewsSatisfaction>

Spotlight on...

CDC's Know Hepatitis B Campaign

Earlier this year, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Division of Viral Hepatitis and Hep B United launched *Know Hepatitis B*, a national communication campaign promoting hepatitis B testing among Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (AAPIs). This multilingual campaign has materials in English, Chinese, Korean and Vietnamese. Though AAPIs make up less than five percent of the U.S. population, they account for more than 50 percent of the 1.2 million Americans estimated to be living with hepatitis B. An estimated one in 12 AAPIs is living with hepatitis B, yet as many as two out of three people do not know they are infected. Many people can live with the disease and not feel sick or have any symptoms. Check out the campaign website at <http://1.usa.gov/17HhW4z> or at the CDC by clicking [here](#).

Upcoming Events

➤ **Annual Conference on Minority Health Issues**

The Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH) Office of Minority Health, along with the Minority Health Partners Committee, invites you to the **Annual Statewide Conference on Minority Health Issues: What You Don't Know Can Kill!** The conference will be held on Friday, September 23, 2013 at the Indiana Government Center South. The goal is to empower and educate community, education, business and governmental leaders who primarily serve minority target populations across the State and to provide information on preparedness, environmental and minority health issues that are rapidly growing, but are not addressed in day to day mainstream sources. **To register for the conference, please click on the following link, and scroll to the bottom of the page to complete the registration process,** http://survey.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_b9jD5JH2v1eh8Nv

Hepatitis Resources

➤ **CDC Surveillance for Viral Hepatitis – United States, 2011**

As part of CDC's National Notifiable Disease Surveillance System (NNDSS), viral hepatitis case-reports are received electronically from state health departments via CDC's National Electronic Telecommunications System for Surveillance (NETSS). Although surveillance infrastructure is in place for reporting of acute infection, reports of chronic hepatitis B and C, which account for the greatest burden of disease, are not submitted by all states. Surveillance capacity to monitor both acute and chronic viral hepatitis is limited at the state and local levels, resulting in underreporting and incomplete variable quality data that is insufficient for understanding the magnitude of viral hepatitis. Data in this report should be interpreted with the consideration that reported cases of acute or chronic viral hepatitis represent only those relatively few infected persons who were detected, diagnosed, met a stringent case definition and eventually reported to CDC in 2011. Because most acute and chronic infections are not reported, this summary is mainly useful in detecting major trends in viral hepatitis A, B and C.

<http://www.cdc.gov/hepatitis/Statistics/2011Surveillance/index.htm>

➤ **Hepatitis C Online Course Available**

A new self-study, interactive course for medical providers on hepatitis C infection is now available. At this time, *Module 1: Screening and Diagnosis of Hepatitis C Infection* and *Module 2: Evaluation, Staging and Monitoring of Chronic Hepatitis C* are active. Additional modules will be posted soon. The project is brought to you from the University of Washington and in collaboration with the International Antiviral Society-USA (IAS-USA). Free CME credit is offered throughout the site and free CNE credit will be available soon. This course was funded by a CDC grant.

<http://hepatitisc.uw.edu/index.php>

➤ **myHIVclinic.org Now Includes Hepatitis Content**

The International Association of Providers of AIDS Care (IAPAC) recently announced the addition of new content on **myHIVclinic.org**, a multi-language web portal meant to support busy clinicians in the management of HIV-associated comorbidities as well as the promotion of healthy aging with HIV.

The new content focuses on viral hepatitis infection, with particular focus on hepatitis B virus and hepatitis C infection, as well as the prevention and management of tuberculosis in people living with HIV.

Visit myHIVclinic.org to learn more about and/or to access the web portal's content.

➤ **Participate in Market Research for Hepatitis**

Xcenda, part of AmerisourceBergen Consulting Services, is looking for individuals living in the United States to join the **Hepatitis C Patient Market Research Panel**.

Qualified participants will earn \$50 for joining the panel, plus the opportunity to earn more money by participating in future market research studies and your information will **always remain confidential**.

To take the next step, please contact the Xcenda Hepatitis C Patient Market Research Panel:

- Click [here](#) to complete the online registration page, which includes a little more information about this panel; or
- Call toll free at 1-888-947-2339, choosing option 1 at the main menu for patient panels and then option 7 for hepatitis C.

- ❖ Please note that this is not an endorsement of any pharmaceutical company, any marketing company or any research practices. This information is strictly intended to inform others of opportunities which are available.

Viral Hepatitis Updates & News

➤ Hepatitis Almost as Lethal as HIV Despite Lack of Awareness

The Institute of Health Metrics and Evaluation tracked the death rates of both diseases in 187 countries. Out of these 187 countries, 117 of them had more deaths caused by hepatitis. Some of these countries include Mongolia, Yemen, Iraq, Poland and even the United States. To read more visit <http://bit.ly/179oPKC>.

➤ Hepatitis C Virus (HCV)

While it is known that a great majority of Americans with hepatitis C are baby boomers (those born between 1945 and 1965), HCV cases are increasing among young white adults living in rural and suburban areas who use intravenous drugs. A review article in the Medscape Medical News provides six ways to combat the spread of this infectious disease in that population. Information gathered was originated from colleagues at the University of California, San Francisco. To read a review of the published article, go to <http://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/808539>.

➤ New Advances in Gene Therapy Are Promising for the Treatment of HBV

The new advancement in gene therapy is based on engineering of a new class of proteins called TALENs that can recognize and disable the DNA of HBV. To read more on this new research, visit <http://bit.ly/179uJwB>.